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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/049,497	02/13/2002	Edel Bernadette O'Toole	CM2140	7650

27752 7590 11/03/2004

THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DIVISION
WINTON HILL TECHNICAL CENTER - BOX 161
6110 CENTER HILL AVENUE
CINCINNATI, OH 45224

EXAMINER

CHANNAVAJJALA, LAKSHMI SARADA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1615

DATE MAILED: 11/03/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/049,497	O'TOOLE ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Lakshmi S Channavajjala	1615

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM
 THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 June 2004.
 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-4 and 8-10 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-4 and 8-10 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____. 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Receipt of amendment and remarks dated 6-17-04 is acknowledged.

Claims 1-4 and 8-10 are pending.

Instant claims 1-3 have been amended to include a cosmetically acceptable carrier suitable for hair is selected from the group consisting of silicone conditioning agents and cationic conditioning agents. Claims 8 and 9 are amended to recite an ester derivative of tyrosine and claim 10 is amended to recite a method of treating hair.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-4 and 8-10 are have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claims 1-4 and 8-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US 5,290,562 to Maybeck et al in view of JP 57-109711 (JP, submitted on PTO-1449) or JP in view of Maybeck et al.

Meybeck teaches cosmetic compositions containing methyl tyrosinate, ethyl tyrosinate or stearyl tyrosinate for increasing the content of melanin and thus improve the hair complexion. Meybeck teaches that tyrosine being hydrophilic does not penetrate easily through the corneal layer and thus suggests using tyrosine esters such as methyl or ethyl tyrosinate and incorporated in liposomes (col. 2, lines 11-40 & lines 57-65). Thus, Maybeck teaches the composition containing tyrosinate salts for both skin melanogenesis as well as for improve the complexion or retard the graying of hair (example 8). Maybeck does not teach at least one other amino acid and a hair-conditioning agent, as claimed.

JP teaches a hair cosmetic composition comprising quaternary ammonium compounds and an amino acid selected from the group consisting of glycine, valine, histidine, tryptophan, threonine etc., (page 1). JP teaches that the composition shows an excellent combing effect and for excellent softness of hair. The quaternary ammonium compound of JP reads on the instant conditioning agent. Accordingly, it would have been obvious for one of an ordinary skill in the art at the time of the instant invention to combine the hair treatment composition of JP, containing amino acids and hair conditioning agent, with the composition of Maybeck, which contains tyrosine methyl ester, or vice-versa because while Maybeck suggests tyrosinate esters unexpectedly make it possible to obtain a measurable increase in the amount of melanin and thus help treat graying of hair, JP suggests the hair care composition for better combability and softness. Thus, both Maybeck and JP teach compositions for improving hair conditions and accordingly the motivation to combination the references flows logically. Therefore, a skilled artisan would have expected to improve the hair combing, softness while simultaneously treating the hair for graying by increased melanin production.

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

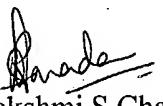
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

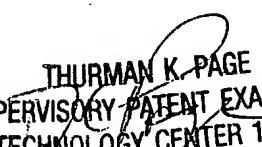
will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lakshmi S Channavajjala whose telephone number is 571-272-0591. The examiner can normally be reached on 7.30 AM -4.00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thurman K Page can be reached on 571-272-0602. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Lakshmi S Channavajjala
Examiner
Art Unit 1615
October 28, 2004


THURMAN K. PAGE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1600